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can be brought against the body of the book, which is as well informed as it is well balanced. Dr. Ball—who acknowledges his debt to the “monumental work” of Roth (1892)—is as scrupulous in doing full justice to the predecessors and successors of Vesalius as he is excellent in his picture of the man himself, and in the description of his work. These appreciations of his immediate followers are a very useful and interesting feature of the book, and very competently and succinctly done. On one point we think the scientific ideas of the past do not receive full justice, either from Dr. Ball or from other historians of medicine; namely, concerning the “vital spirits” of the arteries. Galen, and probably the Alexandrians, saw herein more than the common bellows notion of regulation of heat and cold; in their confused way they had the right idea of a blood reanimated by the air, of *pneuma*—the “spirituous blood” of Servetus and Columbus. They had glimpses of the oxygen they could not catch.

The volume is a very handsome one, beautifully printed and illustrated; indeed it would be well if the publishers were to see their way to print a smaller and less sumptuous edition for modest purses; in which case the index might be considerably improved. From it, among other defects, we cannot find out if Dr. Ball, in stating rightly enough that hitherto we have had but one authentic portrait of Vesalius—the frontispiece of the *De Fabrica* (Basel, 1542)—has any opinion concerning the story in *Janus* (1905) of a portrait recently acquired by a medical museum in Amsterdam. Dr. C. E. Daniels (*loc. cit.*) discussed the credentials of this picture in close detail, and concluded that it is by von Calcar, and from the life.

CLIFFORD ALLBUTT.

The University of Cambridge. Volume III. From the Election of Buckingham to the Chancellorship in 1626, to the Decline of the Platonist Movement. By JAMES BASS MULLINGER, M.A. (Cambridge: University Press. 1911. Pp. lx, 743.)

THIS handsomely printed volume, bound in the light blue of the University of Cambridge, comes, after long delay, as a welcome addition to the two volumes on the history of the university published by the accomplished librarian of St. John's College, in 1873 and 1884 respectively. The author pleads his duties as lecturer on history and his desire to avail himself of the wealth of material furnished by the *Dictionary of National Biography* in justification of the tardy appearance of the work. It will be none the less welcome. The period of which it treats, “from the Election of Buckingham to the Chancellorship in 1626 to the Decline of the Platonist Movement”, involving as it does the Civil War and the Restoration, is one of the most perturbed in the life of the university itself, and at no time in its history was the university a larger factor in the life of the nation.

Such a volume is necessarily less easy reading than a biography or the history of a campaign. The number of individuals, the variety of their interests, the largely scholastic and literary character of their activities, render the picture involved; and the author has been more sparing in general summaries of periods and tendencies than the reader could wish. The individual characterizations, though brief, are however excellent, and the impression of the manner in which the university weathered the storm and stress of these eventful years is definite and satisfactory.

The author gives a sympathetic discussion of the share of Cambridge graduates in the upbuilding of New England, especially of Harvard University, but with the use in large measure of older rather than the more recent historical material and with little that is novel to the student of New England affairs. A point of curious interest is his demonstration of the influence of the theory of the learned fellow of Christ's College, Joseph Mede (1586-1638), in the formation of Cotton Mather's curious opinion that the New World was the special dwelling place of satanic powers driven forth from the Old by the progress of Christianity.

Of interest to teachers of history is the author's account of the foundation by Fulke Greville, the first Lord Brooke, probably through influences emanating from Francis Bacon, of a chair of history in the university in 1627, the occupant of which was not to be in holy orders, and was to be free to lecture on whatever field of history, secular or ecclesiastical, he should elect. Holland furnished the incumbent in the person of Isaac Dorislaus, of Leyden; but though the lecturer in discussing the *Annals* of Tacitus had declared the monarchy of England the best of all governments, he was not sufficiently definite on the divine right of kings to satisfy sensitive ears, and by the time of his second lecture complaint was made to Laud, with the result that though the lecturer signified his willingness to make satisfaction, the lectureship was discontinued, and instruction in history had long to wait in the university.

Buckingham's services to the university during the few months between his election to the chancellorship and his assassination, and especially his proposal to erect a library which that deed prevented, cast a pleasing light on some of the qualities of the royal favorite.

In the involved fortunes of the university during the Civil War, when Churchmen gave place to Puritans and Independents thrust in by authority, and in the equally arbitrary acts which followed the Restoration, the author tells the story with impartiality and clearness. His treatment of the Cambridge Platonists is at once sympathetic and discriminating. He makes plain their merits and their shortcomings alike, and the volume closes with their work. Its use is facilitated by a copious index, but especially by a remarkable table of contents of no less than forty-eight pages, which is almost an epitome of the work.

WILLISTON WALKER.